

State of Nebraska

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE GREGORY A. IBACH Director

January 8, 2007

Dear Grade 1-6 Teachers:

As you are probably aware, Nebraska agriculture contributes more than \$12 billion to Nebraska's economy each year. Nebraska is home to 48,000 farms and ranches utilizing 93% (45.7 million acres) of the state's total land area. Nebraska IS Agriculture!

And because Nebraska IS Agriculture, we plan to celebrate National Ag Week (March 18-24, 2007) in a very special way. We are inviting grade 1-6 teachers and students to get involved in this year's National Ag Week by participating in the fourth annual Nebraska Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Week in Nebraska Poster Contest.

This year's theme is "Nebraska Agriculture – More Than You Imagine." Students can put into pictures what they feel and think about Nebraska agriculture. Last year, we received well over 1,000 posters from across Nebraska and learned about the creative ways Nebraska's school teachers taught their classrooms about agriculture.

Complete contest rules and entry forms are enclosed with this packet. We ask that you share this information with all grade 1-6 classes in your school. Remember, all posters must be received by March 1, 2007!

We would also like to take a moment to remind you of the "Kids Page" on the Nebraska Department of Agriculture web site (www.agr.ne.gov). The "Kids Page" has useful information for students about Nebraska and agriculture. It also includes information on the poster contest and a glimpse at past years' winners.

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture realizes the important role that educators play in the lives of Nebraska youth. If at any time we can assist you in your agricultural studies, please feel free to contact us.

If you have any questions in regard to the poster contest, please contact me at (402) 471-6856 or ckamm@agr.ne.gov.

We look forward to recognizing the creative talents of your students.

Sincerely,

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Christin Kamm

Public Information Officer

Enclosure

Department of Agriculture, 301 Centennial Mall South Web Site: www.agr.ne.gov